THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 23rd February 1955.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Staff employed in the Lignite Mines, Neiveli.

* 179 *Q.*—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of clerks, superintendents and officers now employed in the Lignite Mines, Neiveli, South Arcot district; and

(*b*) how many of them are from the Backward and the Harijan communities?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

" (*b*) Two from the Backward communities, one each in the gazetted and non-gazetted services and none from the Harijan community."

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" தென் ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் பிற்பட்ட வகுப்பினரில், ஹரிஜன மக்களும்தான் ஜனத்தொகையில் பெரும் பகுதியினராகயிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரிந்த விஷயம். அப்படி பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் வாழும் பிரதேசத்தில் இருக்கக்கூடிய சுரங்கத் தொழிற்சாலையில் அதிகப்படியாக பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களை உத்தியோகங்களில் நியமனம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று சர்க்கார் அங்கேயுள்ள அதிகாரிகளுக்கு தெரிவிப்பார்களா ?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" சுரங்கத் தொழிற்சாலை ஒன்றும் அங்கேயில்லை. சுரங்கம் வெட்டி அதிலிருந்து பழுப்புக் கரி எடுக்க முடியுமா என்றுதான் பரிசீலனை செய்யப்பட்டுவருகிறது. இந்த வேலையில் பிற்பட்ட வகுப்பினர், ஹரிஜன மக்கள், இவர்களையெல்லாம் நியமிக்கவேண்டுமென்று அங்கேயுள்ள அதிகாரிகளுக்கு உத்திரவு போடுவது சரியல்ல என்று அரசாங்கம் கருதுகிறது."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" If some special knowledge is required, some kind of discrimination may be understandable. But, if it is a question of manual labour, may I know why the Harijans cannot be preferred? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, so far as technical posts are concerned, some special knowledge is required. In the case of other posts, it is not so. If there was any recruitment, the rules governing the recruitment are applied."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Is it true that the number of gazetted officers belonging to other States is more than the number belonging to the Madras State? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 98 infra.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not have statistics with me, Sir."

SRI T. M. DAIVASIKAMANI ACHARIAR :—" May I know whether there are two layers of water, viz., the surface water and the underground water? May I also know whether any attempt has been made to tackle the 20 feet lignite layer sandwiched in between? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That is so, Sir. There are two layers of water covering the lignite and it is being tackled."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" When there are a number of suitable Madrasis available for taking up the various posts, may I know why the Government thought it fit to fill up these posts by persons who do not belong to this State? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The hon. Member is not correct."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Is there any objection to persons coming from other States being employed in this State, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" There is no objection at all as the hon. Member is aware."

SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" Is it not a fact that people with sound technical knowledge are required for these works? Is it also not a fact that for this purpose we may have to import people with the necessary technical knowledge from other parts? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That is quite true, Sir. From my answer to the main question, the hon. Member may have realized that the question related to ministerial staff like lower division clerk, steno-typists, typists, upper division clerks, head clerk, accounts clerk, etc., besides junior engineers, overseers, surveyors and supervisors."

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the sense of dissatisfaction among the public with regard to the policy of the Government in appointing persons coming from other States in larger numbers? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Perhaps the hon. Member has got a sense of dissatisfaction which I cannot help. I am not aware of any dissatisfaction elsewhere."

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" May I inform the Hon. Minister that I was only voicing the dissatisfaction of the public and not my own? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not think there is any such dissatisfaction. If it is there anywhere, that must be on account of wrong information."

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Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Is it not a fact that under the Constitution of our country, there cannot be any discrimination between one citizen and another to whichever State he may belong? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That is exactly so, Sir. But under the Constitution, Backward communities and Harijans are given some special representation."

Re-allotment of employees in the Civil Supplies department to other departments.

* 180 Q.—Sri M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state— 3-10 p.m.

(a) how many employees who were working in the Civil Supplies department in the South Arcot district have been re-allotted to other departments after passing the Madras Public Service Commission Examination;

(b) whether their previous service has been counted for increment and other purposes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the special competitive examinations held by the Madras Public Service Commission in February and June 1952, with a view to absorb the temporary employees of the Civil Supplies and other temporary departments in the regular departments. If so, the number of employees of the Civil Supplies department in the South Arcot district who appeared for the competitive examination held in June 1952 was 16 and the number selected out of them was 15. No candidate belonging to the Civil Supplies department in South Arcot district sat for the examination held in February 1952.

" (b) The candidates who were selected in the special competitive examinations held in February and June 1952, and allotted to regular departments are entitled to count the last span of their continuous temporary service in the Civil Supplies or other temporary departments for the purpose of increments in the regular departments. These persons are also allowed to start their probation and acquire seniority from the date of their allotment and regularization in the regular departments, without prejudice to their continuance in the temporary departments, till such time as their services are required by the latter departments.

" (c) In view of the reply to clause (b) above, the question does not arise."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Is it a fact that the offices of the Civil Supplies department are still functioning? May I know when they will be finally wound up? "